

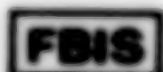
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16 July 1981

Worldwide Report

LAW OF THE SEA

No. 163



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BALTIC SEA COUNTRIES AGREE ON PACT TO CONTROL HAZARDOUS CARGO

Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 2 Jul 81 p 7

[Article: "Ships Carrying Hazardous Cargo in the Baltic Sea To Be More Closely Monitored"]

[Excerpt] The Baltic Sea governments have agreed to the establishment of a position reporting system to coordinate information on ships carrying chemicals, gas, etc. The purpose of the system is to improve the safety of navigation in the Baltic Sea, as well as to make possible timely and effective preventive measures in case of pollution in the sea area. The system was agreed upon as part of the Treaty on Protection of the Baltic. Its test period began on 1 July 1981.

Included in the position reporting agreement are all ships having a cargo tonnage capacity of over 20,000 grt, as well as those ships transporting over 1,600 grt of chemicals or gas. According to the agreement, the ships will report voluntarily their route and position to the reporting center of their respective country.

The Finnish reporting center was established at the headquarters of the Gulf of Finland Coast Guard. The center will be in service 24 hours a day around the year, and will be operated by an officer and radio operators.

The ship reports will be obtained by the center either from the maritime radio station or directly from the ship. The reporting language is English, and the operating time will be GMT.

The means of communication is by telex.

The center receives reports, monitors the ship's reported movement and transmits the reports to other centers.

Evaluations based on results during the test period will be used to examine the need for the system as well as to decide on any possible changes required.

CSO: 5200/2098

NUMBER OF SOVIET FISHING BOATS OFF NEW ZEALAND CUT

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 8 Jun 81 p 3

[TEXT]

The Soviet joint-venture fishing fleet employed on the New Zealand coast is being cut by about half, but its catching power will remain the same.

The move, which has been approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and Soviet fisheries officials, is not to appease local fishermen concerned at the level of Russian fishing but to improve the economics of joint ventures.

Under the new arrangement only nine Soviet joint-venture boats will fish these waters. The ministry's joint-ventures officer, Mr Gary Walden, said the smaller type 1000-tonne trawlers proved unsatisfactory in New Zealand conditions and were being replaced by Atlantic class trawlers of about 3000 tonnes.

Similar Catches

The Fletcher Challenge Group had 10 small trawlers and will exchange eight of

these for two 3000-tonners. It will give that company a fleet of five Soviet boats, consisting of three large Atlantic class boats and two small modern stern trawlers.

Amalgamated Marketing and Sanford Ltd will both operate two large trawlers.

A breakdown by nationality of foreign joint-venture catches is not available, according to Mr Walden, who also said he was not at liberty to say what percentage of these catches would be processed in New Zealand.

The change to fewer but larger boats was expected to result in a similar level of catches.

The managing director of Sanford Ltd, Mr Neil Mills, said his company did not want to accept the old-fashioned 1000-tonners in the first place.

He said they had proved unsuitable for fishing the deep-water fishing grounds and were really suitable only for trawling for squid.

Less Economic

The Tass news agency recently reported that Soviet fishing fleets were shifting their emphasis to the Pacific and were hopeful of obtaining greater catches in this area.

Russia's total fish catch dropped by 1.2 million tonnes between 1978 and 1979 to 9.2 million tonnes, largely because of the introduction of 200-mile zones.

Deepwater fishing has become less economic for Russia. In order to catch one ton of fish in 1979 a Soviet fishing boat had to travel an average of 1903 miles. By 1980 Russian trawlers had to steam 2091 miles.

The Soviet Government has also revised its estimates of average fish consumption.

In its present five-year plan it was estimated Russians would eat an average of 21 kilograms of fish a head, but the figure has been revised to 17kg a head.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA FISH CONTAMINATED WITH MERCURY, SEIZED

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 20 May 81 p 14

[Text] The Prime Minister's Department had intervened to try to have 2000 kg of contaminated barramundi released for sale in Queensland, the Labor MLA for Lytton, Mr Tom Burns, claimed yesterday.

He said the interference had come after a telephone call from the department of Papua New Guinea's Prime Minister, Sir Julius Chan. The fish was sent from Papua New Guinea.

Mr Burns said tests conducted by the State Government's chemical laboratory had shown the barramundi to have 10 per cent more than the allowable maximum amount of mercury.

The fish had been submitted for testing by the Customs Bureau.

Mr Burns said the laboratory received a telephone call from the Commonwealth Health Department asking it to check again.

"They conducted more tests and found exactly the same thing--the fish was not fit for sale," he said.

Mr Burns claimed the Commonwealth spokesman told the laboratory they had a message from Canberra to say the barramundi must be released. This had followed a request from Sir Julius Chan's department. The fish would be worth about \$20,000.

Mr Burns said another 2000 kg of Papua New Guinea barramundi had now arrived in Brisbane after being rerouted from Sydney.

He said the barramundi was still under refrigeration at Murrarie and he had asked the State Health Minister, Mr Austin, to investigate.

"I don't want that fish served up on any table except the one at Parliament House in Canberra," Mr Burns said.

A State Health Department spokesman confirmed yesterday that its chemical laboratories had analysed the barramundi for the Customs Bureau but could not comment on the result.

AUSTRALIA

OFF-SHORE OIL SEARCH NEAR DAMPIER PLANNED SOON

Melbourne THE AGE in English 2 Jun 81 p 23

[Article by Nigel Wilson: "CRA Will Take Part in Oil Search Off Dampier"]

[Text] Australia's biggest mining house, CRA, is moving into high-cost oil exploration off Western Australia.

It is believed negotiations have been completed for CRA to take part in a multi-million dollar drilling programme off Dampier.

CRA would not comment yesterday, but it is believed details will be issued shortly.

The move is a major step for CRA which had scaled down its petroleum interests and concentrated on mining and metal activities. Like many mining companies CRA does not regard the huge cost of off-shore petroleum exploration as sanguinely as do oil companies.

The damper permit, officially described as permit WA 58 P, is inshore from the North West Shelf gas field. Legend No 1, which the old Burmah Oil Company drilled in the areas in the 1960s, produced a non-commercial oil flow.

The permit was awarded to the small Perth-based group Stirling Petroleum in 1976 which subsequently drilled one dry hole and then farmed out to the well-connected Canadian-owned group Hudbay Australia.

The permit area is mainly in relatively shallow water and is regarded by WA geologists as prospective for oil rather than gas.

Plans are for the drillship, Petramar North Sea, now refitting in Singapore, to reach the region in the first week of July.

Hudbay is understood to have farmed in on 171 blocks of the permit and can earn up to 85 per cent interest through an extensive drilling programme. Presumably these percentages will change if CRA joins the venture.

CSO: 5200

BRIEFS

SPEARFISHING BAN--New regulations banning commercial spearfishing on the Great Barrier Reef off central Queensland could help beat the crown of thorns starfish infestation, Dr Robert Endean said yesterday. But the ban should be extended to the whole reef to be effective, Dr Endean said when commenting on the new regulations tabled in Federal Parliament on Thursday. They implement the zoning plan for the Capricornia section of the Great Barrier Reef marine park. Dr Endean, reader in zoology at queensland University, said the legislation was long overdue. He said the crown of thorns were on their "second time around" along the reef. They had caused tremendous damage in the 1960s, but moved away after the coral recovered. Now they were back again. Dr Endean said spearfishing had killed many groper and cod that ate the starfish. It was unfortunate the ban applied only to the Capricornia section at the southern end of the reef. Action should be taken in the Cairns, Innisfail and Townsville region, where the crown of thorns starfish has returned in large numbers. [Excerpt] [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 30 May 81 p 13]

CSO: 5200

INDIA'S THIRD NAVAL SURVEY VESSEL LAUNCHED

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 5 Jun 81 p 16

[Text]

INS Nirupak, the third in the series of survey vessels built by the Garden Reach shipbuilders and Engineers for the Indian Navy, was launched at a simple ceremony at Setaji Subhas Dock, Calcutta, on Thursday. Amid the chanting of hymns, the ship slipped into the water immediately after Mrs Anne Mary Schunker, wife of Vice-Admiral Schunker, Vice-Chief of the Naval Staff, christened the vessel.

Speaking on the occasion, Commodore A. K. Sarkar, chairman and managing director of the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers, said that hydrographic surveys were necessary for the development of maritime activity. The ocean could provide food, minerals and oil and hydrographic surveys were essential for getting realistic data for the exploitation of such ocean wealth. INS Nirupak is fitted with sophisticated navigational, hydrographic and communication equipment.

He said there was a proposal to set up a modern outfitting complex "in one of our units" in Calcutta. Such a facility would go a long way in increasing "our production efficiency and thereby meeting the ever-increasing demand

for ships in the country". He thanked the Naval authorities for extending active support to the proposal.

Stressing the need for creating more shipyards in the country, Commodore Sarkar said shipbuilding capacity was still far below the requirement. He said that since the eastern region was blessed with an abundance of skill relevant to the industry, the case for a modern shipyard in the region became all the more pressing. He urged the authorities to give serious consideration to this proposal and agree to the setting up of a new shipyard at Haldia.

In his brief speech, Vice-Admiral Schunker outlined the significant role played by the Indian Navy in safeguarding the long coastal border and exploiting ocean wealth in the exclusive economic zone of the country. He said charting of the ocean was very important for merchant and navy ships and many more survey vessels would be required for the job in the interest of the merchant marine, the Indian Navy, the Coast Guard and various other maritime organizations.

CSO: 5200/7055

COAST GUARD HEAD INAUGURATES DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 13 Jun 81 p 16

[Text]

HALDIA, June 12.—Inaugurating the district headquarters of the Coast Guard here today, Vice-Admiral S. Prakash, director-general of the organization, said that the headquarters would fill a strategic vacuum in India's coastal defence. Besides guarding offshore economic wealth in the Bay of Bengal, it would be the duty of the Coast Guard to ward off any threat from the sea to the newly emerged New Moore Island.

Vice-Admiral Prakash explained that while no Naval ship was now based either at Calcutta Port or at Haldia, poaching was rampant near the Sandheads. Also, the new island had turned into a busy trap.

To give an idea of the amount of poaching and illegal infringement of India's coastal territories that were taking place, the director-general said that during the current year eight foreign trawlers fishing in Indian waters had been captured off Saurashtra. In February, a Thai ship from which boats were trying to reach the Nicobar Islands was chased away. In all these cases, the Indian ships had to open warning fire. More than 100 people were arrested and

handed over to the police.

The total exclusive economic zone of India, defined to be a 200 mile wide belt round the coasts and the islands, would be half the total area of the mainland in size, he said. To police it effectively, the Coast Guards needed about 60 patrol boats, 30 patrol ships and 40 light aircraft. These would be acquired during the present decade.

Some of the boats and ships are under construction at the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers and at the Mangalore Dockyard in Bombay. Most of the aircraft required, of the reconnaissance type, might have to be imported, but the helicopters would be available indigenously, he added.

The headquarters at Haldia is the first of the 10 district headquarters to be set up. It will be under the Madras regional set up of the Coast Guard organization.

CSO: 5200/7056

ACTION URGED ON SEA ZONE

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 7 Jun 81 pp 1, 11

[Text] Malolos, Bulacan, June 6--Labor Minister Blas F. Ople today said the national government should now organize its resources to protect, conserve, and develop its 200-mile economic zone as declared in Presidential Decree 1599.

The minister said the decree, little noticed when it was promulgated in 1979, "enormously expanded the scope of our responsibilities in protecting our economic and social rights in surrounding waters."

Ople urged the immediate creation of a presidential inter-ministerial body to implement the law declaring a 200-mile economic zone in its political, economic, and social ramifications.

Ople keynoted the first national seminar on the control of illegal fishing attended by experts of the bureau of fisheries and aquatic resources at the Bulacan convention center.

To give meaning and reality to the declaration of the 200-mile economic zone, Ople said, various ministries or agencies should organize a "total national capability," including the Philippine Navy, the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Ministry of Local Governments, and the Ministry of Transportation and Communications.

Ople said fishermen in Iba, Zambales, have often complained of foreign poachers ramming their small craft.

Ople said the RP-US bases agreement has made possible a package of assistance to the Philippines which will accelerate the buildup of the country's coast guard capability.

The minister said the Ministry of Transportation and Communication should replace the present system of coastwise communication which has become inadequate. "This is a hand-me-down from US forces in Vietnam which can no longer be efficiently serviced with spare parts," he said.

CSO: 5200/4528

TRENDS IN DEEP-SEA FISHING FOR 1980's OUTLINED

East Berlin NEEMWIRTSCHAFT in German Vol 13 No 5, May 81 pp 247-250

[Article by Capt Georg Kasper, engineer, economist, chief inspector for maritime safety and navigation, VEB Fishing Combine, Rostock: "The GDR's Deep-Sea Fishing and Its Possibilities Under the Changed Conditions of the 1980's"]

[Text] Third UN Sea Law Conference, which has been in session since 1973, is to terminate its activities with the passage of a new sea law convention during the second half of 1981. Several years will pass until its entry into force because the convention must first be ratified by a corresponding number of participating countries which represent a specifically determined ship tonnage inventory. This process is of practical significance to ocean fishing only to the extent that the expansion of the national fishing zones from 3 or 12 nautical miles to 200 nautical miles, which is to commence as of the start of the conference, is to be approved under international law afterward by all coastal countries. The expansion of the fishery limit to 200 nautical miles or the establishment of national fishing zones or economic zones was a particularly hard blow to countries which, because of their short coastlines, are dependent upon long-distance fishing; those countries also include the GDR or such other countries which do have a long coastline but whose coastal approaches do not contain sufficiently productive fishing grounds to meet their fish needs.

The buildup of the GDR's own ocean fishing fleet began in 1949 with Soviet help, along with the construction of fishing ports and the improvement or new construction of a fish-processing industry. Fish was urgently needed for feeding the GDR population, in much larger quantities than the beach and coastal fishermen were able to catch along the GDR coast. There were, to be sure, rich stocks of fish in the fishing regions in the Baltic and the North Sea, off Iceland and off the Norwegian coast, in the Barents Sea and in the rest of the Arctic Ocean. We need corresponding vessels, techniques, and above all skilled crews so that we might use them for the GDR. We were able to place ever larger and more modern ships in service and we were able to deliver more and more fish. The crews very soon operated their new equipment skillfully and through their achievements contributed to the international recognition and respect given to the young republic.

We were able to fish in ever more productive although partly more remote fishing grounds as a result of the fleet's growth, the use of larger, technically and technologically more modern ships (for example, factory vessels and fishing flotillas

with these vessels. In the beginning, GDR fishing vessels were operating exclusively in the Baltic and the North Sea; between the middle and the end of the fifties they were already operating in all northern European fishing grounds and we began our first fishing cruises to the fishing grounds off Newfoundland and Labrador. During the sixties, GDR fishing vessels were already operating in all fishing grounds in the northern Atlantic and the Arctic Ocean, including the fishing regions off Greenland and the coast of the United States. The first fishing expeditions were also carried out in African waters. The organizational structure of the GDR fishing fleet was adapted to fishing conditions in northern maritime regions. Equipment and technology were geared toward catching and processing the kind of fish that was in keeping with the population's consumption habits. That included mostly herring, sprats, cod, Norway haddock, flounder, and salmon. The vessels in our earlier deep-sea fishing component were operating in the Baltic and the North Sea while the long-range ocean fishing vessels operated mostly off Iceland, Greenland, Canada, the United States, as well as the coast of Norway all the way up to Spitzbergen and in the Barents Sea, in the so-called remote regions. Fishing operations in the individual regions depended on the intensity of the spawning and feeding conditions for the various species of fish and on environmental conditions, in other words, they were heavily seasonally influenced.

As an expression of worldwide recognition for the GDR, ocean fishing conditions among other things also changed. Joining the major international fishing conventions, in addition to a series of positive results, also entailed certain restrictions in fishing possibilities due to the determination of catch quotas and other measures regulating the catch volume. To make sure that these fishing restrictions could not have a negative effect on the supply for the population, the yield from the fish caught was increased with the help of new technologies and modern machines, for example, the waste deriving from the killing and filet-cutting of fish was reduced.

By using modern information methods and equipment and through the broad involvement of scientific discoveries it was possible to improve operational planning further and to use the vessels in such a manner that both the catch quotas were utilized to the most extensive degree, while it was also possible to make optimum use of the fishing regions that were as yet still available. In addition to further organizational measures, crew rotation and the use of refrigerator and transport vessels led to better fleet management and thus to an increase in its assets due to a reduction in the time required for the round-trip as such. The consistent implementation of all of these measures and target-oriented ideological work with the ocean-fishing crews guaranteed a rich catch for many years.

In the European area, it was first of all Iceland--a country which lives from fish--which during the early sixties extended its territorial waters from 3 to 12 nautical miles, followed by a 50-nautical mile fishing zone and, in 1974, finally, a 200-nautical mile economic zone which is at the same time a fishing zone. This one-sided measure, justified in terms of the biological threat to the fish stocks around Iceland and the demand to implement the exclusive national utilization of live ocean resources in that region, at first led to serious controversies with all fishing countries which until then had engaged in highly worthwhile fishing in the Icelandic fishing grounds. In the course of the sessions of the Third UN Sea Law Conference,

the countries, which were in favor of extending the fisheries limits to 200 nautical miles, ideologically prevailed with their viewpoint. After other countries (for example, the United States, the UK countries, Norway, and Sweden) likewise expanded their fishing zones, the socialist countries likewise had to alter their views, which were aimed against extreme expansions of zones reserved exclusively for coastal countries, and established their own fishing zones.

The demand of the geographically disadvantaged countries (which also include the USSR) to the effect that they should get fishing rights from the surplus of other coastal countries is connected with the general recognition of the right of the coastal countries to utilize ocean resources in a 200-nautical mile coastal approach zone (to the extent that this is geographically possible) as well as their pledge to regulate fishing and to implement measures designed to prevent excessive fishing and protect fishing resources. This means that the share of the possible catch, which was in advance determined by a particular coastal country and which the latter was not able itself to catch, was to be made available to other countries.

Although this is not yet generally recognized international law, there is today hardly any coastal country which has not established its own fishing or economic zone in conjunction with its territorial water. In practice, the abandonment of the basic principle of "free fishing," such as it had prevailed approximately since the 17th century, developed to the extent that, upon the establishment of national fishing zones, the coastal countries independently exercise sovereign rights over almost all fishing regions that had been worked until now, that is to say, they are no longer subject to any international control. This means that about 90 percent of the hitherto internationally used fish stocks are now under the national legislation of the particular coastal countries. Basically, each coastal country makes its decisions on the basis of its own--often quite insufficient--knowledge regarding the volume of the possible catch and the surplus that might possibly be distributed. It determines according to its own estimate which countries it allows to fish from the surplus in its own fishing zone and under what conditions. These conditions mostly involve the size and number of vessels allowed to fish, the number of fishing ground days per ship, determination of restricted fishing areas and no-fishing zones, restricted fishing times, fish lengths, determinations regarding fishing gear, as well as supervisory and other measures.

In this connection we can increasingly clearly recognize a trend to the effect that the coastal countries, which already have a well-developed national fishing industry, however also those other countries, which by virtue of their economic potential are in a position to build up their own ocean fishing industry, are trying as soon as possible fully to utilize the fish wealth off their own coasts themselves so that they no longer allow any foreign fishing vessels to enter their fishing zones. That involves especially the European and American countries. For example, the United States has already indicated that only very small surplus quantities could be distributed over the next several years. This is so even though the fishing grounds off the United States coast during the years prior to the establishment of fishing zones were included among the most productive fishing grounds in the North Atlantic--areas that were being harvested by international fishing fleets. Compared to the total fishing volume, the volume caught by American fishermen was extremely small.

The situation is different in those countries which for the time being do not have the economic strength visibly to build up a modern fishing fleet with the corresponding support facilities (fishing ports, repair yards, fish processing plants, fish trade, etc.) and which do not have the necessary technical personnel to operate the vessels and the support facilities in order to exploit the existing fish stocks in an economically and biologically meaningful fashion.

The fishing zones of those countries--primarily African countries--thus have a real big surplus. These countries, whose long-range goal as a rule likewise involves the buildup of a strong national fishing industry, are using their fish wealth by selling the fishing rights to interested parties or by allowing and supporting the formation of mixed companies for fishing and for the processing of fish and other marine animals.

During the middle of the seventies, the expansion of the fisheries limits in most of the fishing grounds harvested by the GDR became so noticeable that the yield dropped by about 40 percent compared to the earlier years. Not until the end of the seventies was it possible, due to a large number of fishing-policy activities, again to attain a level which--considering the fleet's organizational structure--roughly corresponded to the level prior to the introduction of the new fishing zones. The lessons learned so far, the investigations in the fishing-policy field, the exploration and development of new catch and production possibilities, and the preparation of long-range development programs in recent years form the foundation for the strategy and tactics of GDR fisheries policy during the eighties and guarantee the employment of the GDR fishing fleet during that span of time. Considering the anticipated international fishing-policy developments and its own reproduction conditions, the GDR ocean-fishing industry has the following possibilities for guaranteeing the supply of the population with fish and fish products during the coming years:

Even more efficient utilization of catch possibilities in ocean areas that are still freely available;

A stable optimum fishing system, in keeping with biological possibilities, instituted in the GDR's own fishing zone;

The development of industrial fish production in coastal waters and increased fishing in inland lake waters, in the wetlands in our coastal districts, and the other inland water bodies in the GDR;

Stabilization and expansion of international relations in order to obtain fishing rights in the fishing zones of other countries; and

Active cooperation in the currently existing fishing conventions to preserve catch quotas for special species of fish in the maritime regions administered by these conventions.

The possibilities for fishing operations in as yet freely available ocean regions are relatively limited. As far as we know today, they would include the waters in the Antarctic, in which the GDR fleet has been doing seasonal fishing for several

vent, as well as parts of the southeastern Pacific. The long distances which must be covered here--compared to the north and middle Atlantic fishing grounds--result in considerable economic burdens in connection with fishing operations. For the sake of the most economical possible operations it is necessary to use large and complex flotillas which have floating or shore bases for repair, reequipment, and fuel supply, as well as refrigerator vessels to remove the fish that was caught and that was subsequently deep-frozen. Another possibility would be to switch to deeper fishing grounds outside the fishing zone. So-called "deep-sea fishing" however entails a series of presently as yet unresolved problems and is connected with relatively heavy cost and great difficulties. Compared to the fishing grounds used so far, we have enormous pressure increases whose effects on the fishing gear cannot yet be fully countered. We need new technologies and techniques for lowering and raising fishing gear and for drag-netting at great depths and we still do not have sufficiently reliable biological knowledge concerning the possibilities of productive fishing in deep ocean regions.

Fishing operations in the GDR's fishing zones in recent years assumed increasing significance for the GDR fishing industry, especially after the introduction of fishing zones in the entire Baltic Sea. Prior to the introduction of the new fishing limits, the annual catch volume in the region of the present-day GDR fishing zones amounted to about one-third of the total catch volume of ocean fishing in the Baltic Sea; today, about 90 percent of the GDR's Baltic Sea catch is annually put ashore from that region. In addition we have the fact that we can get herring, which is so popular in the GDR, almost only from that fishing region now. A well-coordinated and far-sighted fishing policy will also help us keep fishing operations steady in this fishing region in the future. This can be promoted especially by the following:

Production of young fish through the establishment of restricted fishing zones;

Ban on fishing and determination of minimum mesh size;

Constant biological inspection of the productivity of our fishing stocks;

Coordination with other Baltic Sea countries in the context of the Baltic Sea Fishing Commission.

Right now, increasing attention is being devoted to the development of industrial fish production in coastal waters. Trout breeding and carp production under brackish water conditions will be increased from several hundred to more than a thousand tons. The necessary personnel, financial, material, and organizational measures have been launched and the first production plants of this kind are working successfully. In connection with the need for the better utilization of our own reserves, we are assigning more and more significance to the republic's total water reserves, the ponds, rivers, and lakes. In these waters, yields are being increased through increased stocking with young fish, through the improvement of sanded or mud-clogged lakes and ponds, and corresponding environmental protection measures.

The further improvement and consolidation of relations with other coastal countries--among other things for the purpose of obtaining fishing opportunities in their fishing zones--are of decisive importance in terms of the employment of the GDR

ocean fishing fleet. One possibility would be to enter into fishing treaties. On their basis, traditional rights could be claimed within certain time limits, and reciprocal services (for example, scientific-technical performance, biological and fishing-technique research work, vocational training) as well as the purchase of fishing licenses could be agreed upon.

Another possibility for fishing in productive fishing grounds in the fishing zones of other countries involves the establishment of joint, so-called "mixed companies" (see also the article entitled "Status and Prospects of Ocean Fishing," No 3, 1981, *WELT* (GDR)). Various forms are possible here whereby the coastal country as a rule contributes the initial capital and--to the extent that they are in existence--the shore facilities and issues permits for fishing while the other country in the association makes the ships available. This is mostly connected with the requirement for recruiting a portion of the crew for those ships from the coastal countries. The establishment of such mixed companies however makes sense only if the fishing zone of the coastal country contains fishing grounds which for many years do come facilitate a high yield. This must involve species of fish which can be readily sold on the world market because marketing is handled by the company under the terms of the capitalist market economy. Naturally, this also includes a series of other prerequisites, especially regarding the stationing of fishing vessels. Here we are presently on virgin territory in the fishing industry and we must yet gather the necessary experience.

In recent years, a certain share of the catch was guaranteed on the basis of reciprocal relations, for example, through mutual exchange of fish caught, through the grant of traditional fishing rights, or the purchase of fishing licenses; so far it has not been possible to obtain fishing rights through the formation of a mixed company. The negotiating partners either introduced demands that could not be met or the economic and fishing prerequisites for the establishment of the company did not correspond to the objectives of both partners. Sometimes the establishment of a mixed company however simply failed because of the legislation of the particular coastal country in whose fishing zone the GDR is interested.

Another kind of international cooperation in fishing involves fishing operations on a contract basis for individual foreign companies in their fishing zone. This involves a kind of service which is paid for by a part of the fish caught. The company gets the fishing license from its government.

During the coming years, the GDR fishing fleet will be further rebuilt. New units will be placed in service and obsolete vessels will be taken out of the inventory. That involves not only long-distance fishing vessels but also the cutter fleet, which is used mainly in the GDR fishing zone. With the support of the party leadership and the government, the republic's ocean fishing industry is carrying out the measures necessary to guarantee the utilization of the fishing fleet. Through their complexity, these measures enable us to make sure that the GDR ocean fishing industry will in the future likewise be able to supply the fish needed for feeding the population, considering international fishing-policy developments.

BRIEFS

OIL SPILL FINE REDUCTION--The \$40,000 fine imposed on the captain of the cruise ship Veendam just three weeks ago for spilling oil in the Great Sound was yesterday quashed. Describing the fine handed down by Magistrate the Hon. E. C. Nadarajah as "excessive" the Chief Justice the Hon. James Antwood instead ordered that a \$5,000 fine be paid. The captain of the Veendam, Cornelius Hoenderos, 55, was found guilty of causing the two 300-foot-long black slicks on April 20 while his ship was anchored off King's Point, Alpha Island. On behalf of the ship and Hoenderos, Mr Colin Diel, appealed the penalty. Yesterday Mr Antwood upheld the appeal, saying that the slicks were caused by accident and not mischief. "The evidence does not disclose a deliberate act of pumping or the dumping of oil into the Great sound," he said. "The highest that the case can be put is that the spillage occurred through the carelessness of the ship's crew in failing to inspect the discharge valves to have them kept free of debris." He compared the \$40,000 fine with fines imposed last year on the ships Alert and Kilmelford for similar offences--they were fined \$4,000 and \$500 respectively. [Text] [Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 3 Jun 81 p 3]

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BRIEFS

IRAQI TERRITORIAL WATERS VIOLATION--The Ministry of Justice has announced that on 11 February 1981 Angolan authorities in charge of patrolling our coastal waters had detected the Iraqi boat "Al Rasaza" fishing within our territorial waters off Moçamedes. The captain of this fishing boat had been unable to present the necessary authorization. Angolan authorities went to court, and the trial opened at the 5th Luanda Criminal Court on 8 June. As a result, the owner of the ship was fined 253,080,000 kwanzas. The boat was seized by order of the court and is now in the Luanda harbor. The sentence also awarded to the Angolan state the boat's catch amounting to 617 tons of fish and 75 tons of fish meal. Fishing equipment was also confiscated. The shipowner's lawyer is appealing the sentence. Judge Joa Alves Monteiro was the presiding magistrate. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 14 Jun 81 p 1]

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MARITIME PROTECTION AGREEMENT WITH MAURITANIA

Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 23 Jun 81 p 3

[Article by Desire Gnangnan: "Preservation of Maritime Resources"]

[Excerpt] A maritime cooperation agreement was signed yesterday between the Ivory Coast and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

Benic Nioupin, director for international cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Hamoud Ould Ely, Mauritanian ambassador to the Ivory Coast, signed the document.

This cooperation agreement between our country and Mauritania concerns the marine environment, coastal zones and neighboring interior zones under the jurisdiction of West African and Central African countries, from Mauritania to Namibia.

The general provisions of this agreement indicate that the two parties can conclude bilateral and multilateral agreements, including regional and subregional agreements aimed at ensuring the protection of their marine environment and of the coastal areas of Central and West Africa.

To this end, a research, study and evaluation program could be carefully prepared and used to preserve our maritime resources.

Moreover, the agreement stipulates that the two parties must adopt all appropriate measures conforming to international law to prevent, reduce, combat and achieve--within the area mentioned in the agreement--pollution in all its aspects: pollution from ships, pollution deriving from their submersion operations, pollution of telluric origin and pollution resulting from activities connected with the exploration and exploitation of the sea bottom and its underground.

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ICELAND, BELGIUM SIGN NEW AGREEMENT ON QUOTAS

Reykjavik MORGUNBLADID in Icelandic 12 Jun 81 p 32

[Text] Iceland and Belgium signed a treaty yesterday modifying Belgium's fishing permit within Iceland's economic zone. The main changes involve a 500-ton cut in Belgium's annual quota for this year and a 600-ton cut for next year. The catch can be landed only in Belgium. Furthermore, Belgium agreed to considerably stricter monitoring provisions than were included in the 1975 pact and to narrower fishing areas. They also agreed to let the fishing permits of Belgian trawlers, which were revoked on the first of the month, take effect again on 15 July. Between then and the end of the year they are permitted to catch up to 2,000 tons, 200 of which can be cod.

The following changes and additions were made to the 1975 pact: Belgian vessels will be prohibited from landing their catch from Icelandic fisheries other than in Belgium. Cod must be separated from other species on board. The Coast Guard will obtain detailed information on the size and capacity of the Belgian trawlers' storage space in order to make it easier to gauge the catch on board.

The Coast Guard will receive daily reports about the cod quota and the overall catch as well.

The jobs of inspectors whom Iceland might send to monitor the catch of Belgian vessels coming from Icelandic fishing grounds will be facilitated. Belgian trawlers are obliged to dock at the closest harbor in Iceland if the Coast Guard considers it necessary for checkup purposes.

In the event that a Belgian trawler is found guilty of a major violation of the pact, it can be deprived of its fishing permit temporarily or, in the case of a second offense, permanently.

Belgium will not be permitted to fish in fishery IV (Selvogsbanki) in March, April and May and in fishery V (southeast of the Reykjanes Peninsula) in April. Until the end of this year Belgium will be allowed to catch up to 2,000 tons. The cod catch can never exceed 10 percent of a boat's total catch on any one trip during that period. Belgium is permitted to resume fishing on 15 July. On 1 January 1982, the annual quota of Belgian trawlers will be reduced from the present 5,000 tons to 4,400 tons.

The allowed cod catch is 25 percent of the total catch on each fishing trip.

Jon L. Arnalde, ministry director, was asked whether this amounted to 1,100 tons and, therefore, an increase in Belgium's cod quota, which was only 750 tons before the agreement. He said that this was, in fact, not the case, as the Belgian trawlers did not catch cod on most of their fishing trips, and therefore, cod constitutes only five percent of the overall catch. When they did catch cod, however, it never exceeded 25 percent of the total catch. Thus, the proportion of cod to the overall catch is expected to remain at about 15 percent.

Prime Minister Olafur Johannesson signed the pact on behalf of Iceland, and Jacques Vernar, the Belgian ambassador to Iceland, signed on behalf of Belgium.

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AMBASSADOR ANDERSEN DISCUSSES JAN MAYEN, LOS ISSUES

Reykjavik MORGUNBLADID in Icelandic 6 Jun 81 p 23

[Interview with Ambassador Hans G. Andersen about the Jan Mayen agreement, the Rockall area and the Law of the Sea conference; date and place not specified]

[Text] "This will be the first time that such an agreement, based on a draft of a territorial waters pact, is reached and must be considered a major breakthrough in how we deal with these issues," said Ambassador Hans G. Andersen, adding that it is a major asset for us to have this solution at hand during discussions with Britain, Ireland and Denmark concerning the area west of Rockall.

At the beginning of the interview with Hans G. Andersen, he was asked whether the Jan Mayen agreement meant that a new standard of national sea rights had been established that could be of major consequence elsewhere. His answer was:

[Answer] The basic standard in this kind of territorial division is to set a goal for a reasonable solution. Very often the middle line is reasonable, and that must be considered under special circumstances. Thus, it was a question of reaching a just solution. There are no limits on methods as long as the parties agree. We have examples of mutual development, for example around Japan and Malaysia, but the cases differ so much in various respects that no general conclusions can be reached.

The Jan Mayen Committee agreed to pay special attention to the small size of the island and to take into account that Iceland does not have access to oil areas, and these viewpoints resulted in the agreement that was reached.

Thus, a middle line would only give us 145 miles, and with 200 miles come 25,000 square kilometers in addition. Moreover, the potential resources are divided in half. I think I can say for sure that it would be difficult to find two other nations that could have agreed on that. I and Jens Evensen have known each other for 30 years and always been able to get along, and it was certainly a pleasure for both of us to work with a great person like

Elliot Richardson, who has a thorough knowledge of the Law of the Sea issues and showed complete objectivity and kindness.

[Question] Will this solution set an example for other agreements?

[Answer] First of all it was an example of how to solve delicate problems with good will and close cooperation. The solution itself will probably gain much attention and be useful for those who are handling similar issues, many of which will certainly come up in the near future.

[Question] How does this solution fall within the framework of the Law of the Sea pact?

[Answer] It is very much in keeping with the pact and the standards on which it is based, as the states involved are expected to try to reach an agreement and aim for a fair solution. And the most difficult part is to decide what is fair. That is the big question. At any rate, this is an important example of how to look at and resolve these issues.

[Question] Does the draft say anything about a similar solution?

[Answer] It is true that nowhere in this enormous draft is there mention of the options for joint ownership or mutual development. This option is obviously more advantageous for us than to argue over a special dividing line outside the 200 miles, in which case most of the resource area would have been granted to Norway.

[Question] Has this particular solution ever been discussed during any of the many conferences that have been held over the past 10 or 15 years?

[Answer] No, this is the first time that such an agreement based on the draft has been reached, and it must be considered a major breakthrough in the handling of these issues. We should be happy about it and we must not forget that we will have future discussions about ocean floor areas.

It is a major asset for us to have this solution in hand. And there is no doubt that Britain, Ireland and Denmark will study the documents thoroughly. It would certainly be gratifying if we could work in the same spirit towards the solution of the Rockall issue during the upcoming discussions. The parties concerned are friendly sister countries that are obliged to seek a just solution, in accordance with all of the circumstances.

[Question] What would you say about the Law of the Sea Conference itself?

[Answer] As news reports have indicated, activities were supposed to end this year, but the U.S. delegation felt it had to reconsider its stand and, in fact, they didn't want to hold the next meeting until next year. Nevertheless, we all agreed to hold a meeting in Geneva this summer.

The U.S. delegation is working hard on its investigations and will cooperate with other delegations during the August meeting.

But they have declared many times that their investigations will not be over before this meeting and perhaps not until late this year.

[Question] Are many amendments expected from them?

[Answer] The main point for us is that we do not expect changes concerning territorial waters, the economic zone and the continental shelf, but rather in connection with the international seabed beyond the abovementioned areas. The original aim was to utilize this area for the developing countries.

Seeing to this resource development has always been considered the task of a special international institute, but initially and for a long time the developing countries demanded that the industrialized nations provide money and technology for their free use at the institute.

This was not agreed to, and we have spent time seeking a reconciliation, so that industrial firms can participate in the development on their own. The main points that the U.S. delegation is making in this regard are that too many concessions have been made in this matter, that the institute has too much power, even to exclude corporations, and that the companies involved do not have enough guarantees for satisfactory profits on their investments and efforts and could even lose all their money. And of course the fear that this might happen blocks all activity. This is also a matter of the power of the institute to control production because of the mineowner's interests and various other things.

[Question] When will this end?

[Answer] As I said before, activities are scheduled to end this year, and most people are of the opinion that everything can be brought to a conclusion next year. Of course it would have been desirable to conclude these issues this year. But if others want to discuss issues that are of little importance to us for a while longer, then we might as well agree.

[Question] Isn't this all rather tiring and boring?

[Answer] Perhaps it is a bit boring at times but we mustn't forget that it is gratifying to participate in activities on which much progress has been made, especially for us in Iceland, and this is progress that can never be taken away from us.

BRIEFS

USSR ACCEPTS 200-MILE ZONE REGULATIONS--The Soviet Union has dropped its reservations regarding the Norwegian decision to establish a 200-nautical-mile economic zone around Jan Mayen, Foreign Minister Knut Frydenlund told NORSE TELEGRAMBYRA. Frydenlund sees this as confirmation that the agreement Norway reached with Iceland last year on the establishment of the fisheries zone was necessary and correct. The Soviet decision means that Norwegian regulations covering catches and other activities in the economic zone and on the seabed will be respected by the Soviet Union. As far as fishing is concerned, quotas and regulations will be discussed by the Norwegian-Soviet fisheries commission which deals with such questions as catches in the Barents Sea. [Text] [LD181023 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 13 Jun 81 p 26]

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